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in part what is now known as British North America. At the time of Confederation, four of these separate entities were joined into one to make a Dominion. Others were added or created in the course of years, and by 1905 we had a Dominion composed of nine provinces in all, extending across the northern half of this continent from sea to sea. Of one or other of these provinces, we also are citizens, and what pertains to the business and affairs of these provinces, we designate as provincial politics.

But our citizenship is wider than provincial. We are citizens of the Dominion, and those who are interested in its affairs may be said to be concerned with Dominion politics.

Our Dominion, however, is part of a yet larger entity, which in the course of years, has assumed the complexion which it to-day bears, namely that of a community of free British nations, designated at times as an Empire, and at times as a Commonwealth. Here is a yet wider citizenship, with its obligations in matters of government. In all that relates to the affairs of the Empire, we have some concern, and that concern makes Empire politics a part of our obligation of citizenship.

Finally, we have come to learn in our own day, as never before in the history of the world, that no country

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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